



NEWS RELEASE

Date: March 15, 2018
District: 7- Los Angeles & Ventura Counties
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Topanga Canyon Boulevard (State Route 27) Closed Due to Mud and Rock Slide

Between Topanga and Malibu - The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has closed SR-27 (Topanga Canyon Boulevard) between State Route 1 (Pacific Coast Highway) and Grandview Drive due to a mud and rock slide through at least Sunday night, March 18, 2018 with the expectation of more rain this weekend.

At approximately 2:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 15, a slide occurred near mile post marker 1.5 on Topanga Canyon Blvd. After the ground became saturated in a former burn area, large rocks, mud, debris, and ash slid down the slope and over the gully and roadway shoulder. A drainage pipe at that location became clogged with mud and debris and the overflow spilled onto the roadway.

This slide is in the same general location as the slide from last week. After last week's slide, Caltrans installed several hundred feet of K-rail with fence on top for a total height of eight feet to catch mud and rocks. This morning's slide occurred over a gully just outside the parameters of the K-rail in three separate locations within a span of approximately 1000 feet.

Caltrans has skip loaders, backhoes, dump trucks, and sweepers on scene clearing the roadway. A geological engineer from Caltrans is also on scene to inspect the area and to determine a subsequent course of action. With more rain expected, Caltrans will keep the roadway closed through at least Sunday night to clear the roadway, implement any necessary additional slide control, and keep the roadway safe for the public use.

The closure covers a span of approximately four miles within a rural area. There are no homes or businesses within the area of the slide. This is the third slide on Topanga Canyon Blvd. since a fire in the area in January. The roadway is one lane in each direction with a shoulder within the closure area. One vehicle was originally stuck in the mud with no injuries reported.

Use other canyon roads between SR-1 and US-101 as alternate routes. Photos attached.

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